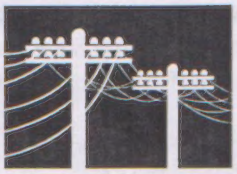
The Field Museum

Natural News

Weekly Staff Newsletter
October 8, 1999

POWER INTERRUPTION

OCTOBER 8, 1999 • *REVISED INFORMATION*



After hours on Friday, October 8, Commonwealth Edison will replace two transformers at The Field Museum. No programming or special events will be affected by this outage. **The building will be partially without power from 6 p.m. until about 7 p.m. on Friday night and again from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. on Saturday morning.** Provision is being made for the special needs of each department. If you have special needs that have not yet been addressed, please contact Lou French, Manager, Facility Planning & Operations at ext. 7390 immediately.

COMPUTER SHUT DOWN

The Museum will experience a *partial* power outage of about *five minutes* on Friday, October 8 at 6 a.m. For this reason and the outage Friday evening, Computing Services has asked that all computers and computer-type equipment be shut down and unplugged, if possible, Thursday and Friday at the end of the business day.

BUILDING EVACUATION

Per Security, the Museum will be in a closed building situation from 5:30 p.m. on Friday, October 8 until 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 9. No personnel except Security and those with Security authorization will allowed in the building. Again, the building MUST be completely vacant during this time period. Security will be making multiple sweeps of ALL areas of the building. ANYONE found in the building during this time period will be immediately escorted out.

RESET ALERT

All equipment resets and restarts that must be performed before 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 9 must be performed by lead engineer Earl Duncan. If you have not already spoken to Lou French, Manager of Facility Planning & Operations, please do so immediately.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

All emergency contact lists and updates should be submitted to the Security Department by noon on Friday, October 8.

Submitted by Lou French
(312) 665-7390, lfrench@fmnh.org

FIELD NOTES

Week of October 11

Staff/Volunteer Events

Tae Bo class
- Monday, 5 p.m., Ground Floor East

Aerobics Class
- Tuesday, 5 p.m., Ground Floor East
- Thursday, 5 p.m., Ground Floor East

Green Sheet Meeting
- Wednesday, 3 p.m, Special Events

Public Events

Dinos & More
- Monday & Tuesday in SFH

Education Overnight
- Friday

Celebración
- Saturday & Sunday

The **Natural News** is edited by Rodger Patience in the Development department. Call ext. 7286 or e-mail *patience* with stories, news, events, or any item of interest to the Museum community.

NEW!!
Deadline for each week's issue is now **Wednesday** at noon.
NEW!!

RAVE REVIEWS

Cartier 1900 – 1939 a success thanks to the efforts of many

Saturday, October 2 marked the opening day of Cartier 1900 – 1939. The concerted efforts of many people ensured a seamless and beautiful installation.

The dedication, talent, and sheer hard work of the Exhibits design and production staff have been, as always, remarkable. **David Layman**'s design is a perfect backdrop to these incredible pieces, while **Dirk Urban**'s unique graphics fully complement them. **Nel Fetherling**, along with her production team—**George Chavez, Brian Dettmer, Bruce Heimbuch, Robert Hughes, Shawn Longino, Scott Smith, Bob Tolnai, Donna Tocci,** and **John Zehren**—worked tirelessly and cheerfully to create this beautiful installation. **Pam Gaible** and her crew, including **Amanda Flood, Steve Lalik, Dave Mendez,** and **Lauren Was,** worked painstakingly to mount the pieces to perfection, while **Trigg Waller, Abe Bloom** and **Russ Flack**'s expertise ensured fantastic lighting. Other members of the Exhibits department, including **Amy Costello, Jeanelle de la Paz, John Petreikis,** and **Eric Manabat,** were unfailing in their support.

Thanks also to **Ben Bronson,** Anthropology, who has made himself available time and again to us. Also, thanks to **Alisa Aguilar, Bronwyn Eves, Holly Lundgren** and **Cap Sease** for their expertise and assistance.

Lauren Niimi and **Beth Adams** of Education have created wonderful programming and activities in support of the exhibition, and **Mary Ann Bloom** of Education and **Patti Stratton** of Human Resources have organized a tremendous volunteer staff.

The Public Services staff has also been instrumental in providing a smooth process. **Josie Compton, Jeff Hawkins, Derek McGlorthan,** and **Marcia Pyle** have all gone above and beyond the call of duty.

The entire Public Relations and Marketing staff, as always, has been irreplaceable.

Thank you all again for your hard work, dedication and enthusiasm that has made this an incredible exhibition!

Submitted by Mia Schillace

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Job and Volunteer Hotline now available!

Due to the large number of inquiries we receive on a daily basis, we have instituted a telephone tree attached to the main Museum telephone system to help process calls. The system will give callers the option to have some of their most commonly asked questions answered in an efficient manner. Additionally, callers will be able to have a current copy of our job and volunteer opportunities automatically faxed to them.

The system is currently in place and now you can refer all outside callers (job seekers and volunteer seekers) to the Human Resources Hotline at (312) 665-7281. Callers who wish to speak with an actual person will have the opportunity to at the conclusion of the recorded messages.

We are excited to have this feature in place. Potential staff and volunteers will be able to obtain up-to-date information about our opportunities with the touch of their telephone keypad.

If you wish to reach the HR department directly, please call x7271.

Submitted by Shawn VanDerziel

Policy on contacting government officials

Field Museum employees must receive authorization from their supervisors before making any communications with city, state or federal government elected officials on behalf of the Museum. If your supervisor is unavailable please call Fay Levin, Vice President, External Affairs at ext. 7220 with any questions about contacting any elected or appointed government officials on Museum business.

Submitted by Felisia Wesson

Trustee directory

The new 1999-2000 Trustee Directory was distributed to members of the Board of Trustees and staff during the week of September 27. The directory is for the use of trustees and staff only and should not be shared with any outside person or organization. Questions about appropriate communication with trustees should be directed to Nancy DeDakis, Administrative Assistant, Board Relations at ext. 7231 or ndedakis@fmnh.org.

Submitted by Felisia Wesson

New procedure for Security requests

Jeff Hawkins is the new Security Manager. We ask that all Security requests be directed to him until he can reorganize the Security Department. Jeff can be reached at extension 7980 or via e-mail at JHawkins@fmnh.org. Thanks in advance.

Submitted by Diane White

WITH MUCH GRATITUDE

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

A huge thank you to each and every one of the fabulous museum staff who helped make the *Part of the World Project, Phase II* kick-off session a great success. Very special thanks go to **Ron Hall** and **Bob Cazy** (Audio/Visual) , **Danielle Kiefer** (Exhibits), **Cody Lassen** (Visitor Services), **Yolanda Cartwright, Ellie Gunther,** and **Carol Konieczny** (Special Events), **Miriam Alleyne** and **Lionel Dunn** (Security), and **Ed Czerwin** (Printing). Your willingness to ensure that everything ran smoothly was greatly appreciated. Also very huge thanks to **Mickey Calhoun** and **Ben Williams** (Library) for allowing us to use your meeting room. It truly set the tone for a special day. Big thanks are also due to **Randy Scalf** and **Valerie Gardner** (Membership), **Debbie Kvapil** (Housekeeping), **Janet Young** and **Tara Gibson** (Development), and **Olga Pack** (Shipping). Last, but certainly not least, thanks to **Paula Ramos** and **Bill Ryan** (Education) for your Herculean efforts and to **John McCarter, Mary Ellen Munley** and **Mark Larson** for addressing the participants.

Submitted by Nancy Shuttleworth

Thanks for making CTA Day such a success!

On September 26, 1999 approximately 2,000 CTA employees and their families enjoyed a day on the Museum Campus. Thanks to all of you who helped make this day successful!

Special thanks to **Debra Garcia, Patti Tuomey, Diane White, Tracy Walker, the Visitor Services Staff, Johnsie Galliday, the Housekeeping staff, Sheldon Moy, Luis Fernandez,** and a very BIG thank you to **McDonald's** for their wonderful service!

Submitted by Cheryl Giznik

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Parrillo returns from Peru

A team of ten biologists from the University of San Marcos in Lima and The Field Museum (including Bruce Patterson-Mammals, Doug Stotz-ECP and Pepe Tello-Birds) began field work on a three-year grant to inventory mammals and birds in Peru's Parque Nacional Manú. Manú's diversity of birds and mammals ranks among the highest in the world. The 1999 field season will sample animals from lowland rainforest, montane rainforest and high altitude puna (grassland). Parrillo and Peruvian team member John Chavez retrieved ectoparasites from nearly 850 birds and mammals collected during the three-week camp near Shintuya (lowland rainforest). These will provide a rich data set to augment ongoing systematic studies in several invertebrate and vertebrate groups. The rarest discovery was a species of water rat known only from two specimens. Another was the capture of the

scarcely encountered oil bird. Other than a few bat bites, one spider bite and many wasp stings the group survived the first camp intact and in good spirits. Matt Dean-Insects and Tom Gnoske-Birds replaced Parrillo on the way to the second camp where the group will be staying for another week. Everyone will return after a final three weeks in the cold grasslands.

Clam congress convened in Cambridge

Rüdiger Bieler (Zoology) recently returned from a scientific meeting on the Biology & Evolution of the Bivalvia, organized by the Malacological Society of London, in Cambridge. He presented a paper on "Marine Bivalves of the Florida Keys: Discovered Biodiversity" co-authored with research associate Paula Mikkelsen. The paper not only doubled the previously assumed species diversity for the region, but also demonstrated the power of museum collections in the reconstruction of local faunas (and, conversely, highlighted the poor results of studies based on literature surveys alone).

Chicago's CEEB faculty and students were well-represented at this Bivalvia-specialized congress, with David Jablonski, Susan Kidwell, Michael LaBarbera, and Rowan Lockwood also participating. While in England, Rüdiger attended the Council meeting of the International Society of Malacology (Unitas Malacologica) and investigated materials from the Linnean Collection in London.

I Field Good (dadadadadadadada)
I Knew That I Would!

Flu Shots

Thursday
October 21, 1999
10 am - 12 pm
Conference Room 1
Cost: $10

Questions: Contact Human Resources x7271

THE FIELD GOOD PROGRAM

The Field Museum Turns CPS Kids into Mini-Paleontologists in "Dig It!"
Over a million students nationwide tune in to the dino-broadcast

On Sept. 28 and 29, four Chicago Public School students traveled out West for the ultimate field expedition, "Dig It!" Accompanied by Field Museum educators and joined by students from Indiana, the four CPS students flew to Denver and then participated in the dinosaur dig, which was broadcast to over one million students around the country.

Loren Harris, Oscar Jones, Marlon Brown, and Tawana Daniels, all fifth-graders from Mary E. McDowell School, a Chicago Public School, uncovered the secrets of a Jurassic watering hole in Grand Junction, Colorado and then explored the world famous Dinosaur National Monument.

During their dino-journey, the four CPS students joined scientists in the discovery and excavation process to become mini-paleontologists. They "tracked" dinosaurs, dug for bones, and chronicled their finds in a journal. In a joint journal entry, the students wrote, "Our digging tool was a little broom. We began to brush and brush! ... We did the tracking, made an educated guess, and believe we are ready to start digging!"

The dino-journey was broadcast live via satellite, the Internet, and Chicago's WYCC TV as an electronic field trip, a multi-media experience involving live broadcasts and online experiences. Over a million students and teachers around the country watched the broadcast and joined the expedition team. In Chicago, nearly 1800 students tuned in to WYCC TV to share in their peers' excitement of discovery. During the interactive broadcast, students in the participating schools posed questions to the group by phone, fax, e-mail and live Internet chat. WYCC TV will air Part I of "Dig It!" on October 14 at 1:30 p.m. Part I and II of "Dig It!" will air again on December 14 and 15 at 11 a.m.

The Field Expedition Company™, the Field Museum's educational technology program, developed "Dig It!" in partnership with Insite Distance Learning. In November, the Field Expedition Company is offering "Underground Adventure," the second in a five-part series of electronic field trips.

The Field Expedition Company, which integrates problem-based learning, shows behind-the-scenes science and uses state-of-the-art technology, is part of the Museum's Education Department.

Submitted by Raissa A. José

Movie Nights are back . . . and scarier than ever!

The Social Events Committee and Human Resources invite you to an evening of terror on Wednesday, October 13th, as we kick off our monthly movie nights. Join us as we present "The Exorcist," starring Linda Blair, Ellen Burstyn, and Max Von Sydow. Dinner will be served from 5 to 6 p.m. by the West Entrance with $1 sodas and $2 beer and wine. The movie will follow in Montgomery Ward Hall at 6 p.m.

Too frightened to watch the movie? Hang out and mingle during our social hour; drinks will be sold until 7 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Submitted by The Social Events Committee

Looking to enjoy the Halloween Season? Try Fright Fest at Six Flags Great America!

Stop by Human Resources to pick up a money saving coupon. Each coupon is valid for up to 4 adult admissions at $6 off the regular admission price. Coupons are valid for October 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31.

This year's attractions include two spooky haunted houses, the serpent safari reptile show, costumed creatures and ghouls, frightening rides, the horror circus, and much more.

Submitted by Human Resources

Field trip planned to see the 'Hawks in their natural habitat

The Social Events Committee is planning an outing to see the Chicago Blackhawks against the L. A. Kings. The game will be held at the United Center on February 16, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. We are planning to have everyone meet at the Museum before the game for food and drink starting at 4:30 p.m. and then head over to the United Center to see the game. A trolley will be provided for transportation between the United Center and the Museum.

If you would like to attend, please fill out the following survey that will help us determine the exact number of tickets to order. The cost will be $22.00 per person, including the ticket, transportation, and food before the event at the Museum. Drinks will be $1 for soda and $2 for beer/wine at the Museum.

Tickets need to be ordered in lots of 100, so this event may be open to friends and family to attend if tickets are available. The cost for friends and family will be $22 as well. Please indicate the additional tickets you may want.

Submitted by the Social Events Committee

Name & Department	**YES (attending)**	**NO (will not attend)**
_____	[ ]	[ ]

Additional Tickets _____(please indicate #)

Please return to Human Resources by Nov. 1, 1999.

Thank you!
Social Events Committee and Human Resources

DCCA Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs

George H. Ryan
Governor

Pam McDonough
Director

September 30, 1999

Mr. John McCarter, President
The Field Museum
1400 South Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Dear Mr. McCarter:

I am writing you to sing the praises of one of the Field Museum treasures - that being your Manager of Special Events Carol Konieczny.

The Illinois Film Office was created to attract motion picture productions to Illinois as a means to boost our economy. As director of this office, I know that it is not our work alone that brings these projects to Illinois. Ultimately, it is the cooperation of individuals and businesses that make our state a great place to make movies.

The Field Museum stands out among filmmakers as a fine example of midwestern hospitality. The museum could not have a better advocate that Carol to handle the complicated and oftentimes ridiculous needs of these productions while dealing with the realities of working in such a wonderful place.

Upon the completion of every project filmed in Illinois I sit down with the production executives to discuss the good, the bad, and the ugly of filming on-location. These filmmakers want me to give an award to the Field Museum for "Best Location" in Illinois for all of the incredible cooperation extended to them. Over the past four years I have heard nothing but praise about the museum and Carol in particular. From "The Relic" to "Early Edition" to "The Visitors" to "Kids Say the Darndest Things", and numerous others have left our state with good memories. The Museum, and its employees, are sure making my job a whole lot more enjoyable. I thank you for all the support.

Sincerely,

Ron Ver Kuilen

Ron Ver Kuilen
Managing Director
Illinois Film Office

cc: Jim Kroft, Director of Finance
Laura Sadler, Director of Auxiliary Services

Big Thanks!

Thanks to the following Museum staff members for their help with the September 27 Campaign Celebration party.

Beth Adams
AV Staff—especially Mentee Teah
Paul Baker
Judy Block
Floyd Blunston
Sandy Boyd
Sam Burns
Carolyn Byrne
Joe Cablk
Bob Cantu
Jean Cattell
Maria Cosillo-Starr
Beth Crownover
Elizabeth Cruger
Nina Cummings
Dana Cushingberry
Nancy DeDakis
Jane Dukek
Jennifer Eagleton
Kathryn Eggers
Exhibits staff
Engineering Staff
Chris Fiene & entire Museum Store staff
Maria Fontana
Lou French
Amanda Geppert
Tara Gibson
Robert Gray
Helen Green
David Hanke
Phil Hansen
Collin Harvey
Anne Haskel
Steve Hines
Housekeeping staff—especially Debby Kvapil & Eddie Redwood
Raissa José
Neil Keliher
Jeff Kempin
Dennis Kinzig
Lance Kirsch
Sibel Kusimba
Carol Konieczny
Johanna Krynytzky
Melissa Lee
Ray Leo
Karrie Leung
Carolyn Masters
John McCarter
Lisa Miller
Sheldon Moy
Mary Ellen Munley
Christian Nutall
Carter O'Brian
Gita Padamadan
Rodger Patience
Security staff—especially Miriam Alleyne, Lionel Dunn & Monique Tarleton
Stephanie Powell
Print Shop
David Quednau
Paula Ramos & volunteers
Bill Ryan
Randy Scalf
Mark Schmeltzer
Maria Stevens
Brittany Stull
Megan Sweeney
Madelyn Thompson
Vei Thompson
Encarnacion Teruel
Susan VandenBosch
Rob Vosper
Visitor Services staff
John Weinstein
Felisia Wesson
Diane White
Willard White
Cynthia Winship
Janet Young

Submitted by Charles Katzenmeyer